

Love for the NEXT



Positioned for what is NEXT

17 Feb 2019



Love – the greatest

- Mark 12:28-31 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”²⁹ “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.’³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’³¹ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”



What does it mean to love God?

- John 14:15 "If you love Me, **keep My commandments**.
- Matt 10:37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not **worthy of Me**. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.
- Mark 12:30 Love the Lord your God with **all your** heart and with **all your** soul and with **all your** mind and with **all your** strength



Loving God is to be satisfied in Him

- Ps 63:1-2 O God, You *are* my God;
Early will I seek You;
My soul thirsts for You;
My flesh longs for You
In a dry and thirsty land
Where there is no water.
2 So I have looked for You in the
sanctuary, To see Your power and Your
glory.



Satisfied in Him not just for His gifts but in God Himself

- Psalms 27:4 One *thing* I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek:
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
To **behold the beauty of the Lord**,
And to inquire in His temple.





Understanding God's love

- Eph 3:14-19 For this reason I **bow my knees** to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, **to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man**, ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ **may be able to comprehend** with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— ¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.



New level of loving others

- John 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; **as I have loved you**, that you also love one another.
- 1 Cor 13:4-6 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.



Loving in community

- John 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; **as I have loved you**, that you also love one another.
- John 13:35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."